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Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 COME-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01

L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 /081 W
---------- 058524
R 101705Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8414
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 4633

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN, BE
SUBJ: CIVAIR: POTENTIAL STRANDEES

1. BELGIAN CHARTER COMPANY POMAIR CALLED EMBASSY AUGUST 10 TO EXPRESS CONCERN COMING WEEKEND WILL SEE REPETITION OF LAST WEEK'S DIFFICULTIES IN OSTENDE. POMAIR HAS FLIGHT SCHEDULED FOR L.A. FOR EVENING AUGUST 11. IT IS RETURN HALF OF SPLIT CHARTER FOR INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FEDERATION AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA WHICH ARRIVED OSTENDE JUNE 22. HOWEVER, SEVERAL PROBLEMS EXIST:
(A) POMAIR BELIEVES MAJORITY OF 186 ORIGINAL PASENGERS HAVE ALREADY RETURNED TO U.S. OR ARE DELAYING RETURN TO LATER IN MONTH AND THAT NO MORE THAN 20-40 WILL SHOW UP AUGUST 11. POMAIR DOES EXPECT THAT AS HAPPENED LAST WEEK 100 OR SO OTHERS WITH ' VOUCHERS' ISSUED BY TRAVEL AGENTS AROUND EUROPE WILL ALSO APPEAR.
(B) AUGUST 11 FLIGHT TO L.A. WAS COORDINATED WITH AUGUST 12 L.A. -OSTENDE CHARTER FOR MELROSE CLUB OF L.A. PROGRAM ARRANGED BY TOM BOLO (415 WASHINGTON ST., SUITE 903, MARINA DEL REY, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE TEL 871-0892, HOME TEL 641-9478) WHO POMAIR SAY HAS MADE PARTIAL PAYMENT FOR OSTENDE-L.A. PORTION OF ROUND TRIP, BUT MADE NO RPT NO PAYMENT FOR AUGUST 12 L.A.-OSTENDE PORTION. POMAIR TELEPHONED BOLO WITHIN LAST 24 HOURS
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BUT CLAIM HIS PROMISE OF PAYMENT VAGUE.

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2. POMAIR INTENTIONS AS FOLLOWS: NATURALLY NO PROBLEM IF PLANE LOAD FULL OF ORIGINAL JUNE 22 PASSENGERS ARRIVE AND PAYMENT MADE FOR AUGUST 12 FLIGHT. IF ONLY SMALL NUMBER ORIGINAL PASSENGERS SHOW UP, POMAIR WILL NOT SEND OWN PLANE BUT ARRANGE SCHEDULED SERVICE OR OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS. (EMBASSY OF COURSE COULD STILL HAVE PROBLEM OF "VOUCHER" CARRYING PASSENGERS.) POMAIR HOWEVER VAGUE ABOUT THEIR INTENTIONS IF LARGE NUMBER BONA FIDE PASSENGERS ARRIVE BUT NO PAYMENT MADE ON RETUN L.A.-OSTEND FLIGHT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE HOPE AUGUST 8 ARTICLE IN PARIS HERALD-TURBUNE WILL OBVIATE PROBLEM BY INDUCING PROSPECTIVE PASSENGERS TO CONTACT THEIR AGENTS. HOWEVER BEST SOLUTION TO SITUATION SKETCHED IN BY POMAIR WOULD BE PAYMENT FOR L.A.-OSTENDE FLIGHT. IF DEPARTMENT AND CAB PERCEIVE NO OBJECTIONS WE SUGGEST TOM BOLO BE CALLED IN EFFORT REMOVE POMAIR UNCERTAINTY.
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Draft Date: 10 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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